

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) A method for allocating network traffic analysis tasks to networked devices comprising:

activating respective monitoring components embedded into network interface of a plurality of devices of a network;

requesting resource utilization data from a subset of the activated monitoring components;

accepting resource utilization data from the subset of activated monitoring components;

evaluating the resource utilization data;

determining which devices have greatest available resources based at least in part on the resource utilization data; and

allocating network traffic analysis tasks based at least in part on the available resources.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for allocating network traffic analysis tasks to networked devices comprising:

activating a monitoring component embedded into network interface of more than one device on a network;

requesting resource utilization data from each activated monitoring component;

accepting resource utilization data from each activated monitoring component;

evaluating the resource utilization data;

determining which device has the greatest available resources based at least in part on the resource utilization data; and

allocating the network traffic analysis tasks to the device with the greatest available resources.

21. (Presently Presented) A method for allocating network traffic analysis tasks to networked devices comprising:

- activating a monitoring component embedded into network interface of more than one device on a network;

- requesting resource utilization data from each activated monitoring component;

- accepting resource utilization data from each activated monitoring component;

- evaluating the resource utilization data;

- determining the available resources for each device based at least in part on the resource utilization data;

- allocating the network traffic analysis debug task to the device with the greatest available resources; and

- allocating the network traffic analysis control task to the device with second greatest available resources.

22-28. (Cancelled)